

Dedicated to all my choral students at Rosemead High School

BREAK, BREAK, BREAK

for S.S.A.T.B. voices and piano

Words by

SIR ALFRED LORD TENNYSON (1809-1892)*

Music by

RUTH MORRIS GRAY**Fervently** (♩ = ca. 108)

HANDCLAPS (second time only)

The musical score is arranged for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano. The tempo is marked 'Fervently' with a quarter note equal to approximately 108 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes vocal staves for Soprano and Alto, Tenor and Bass, and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with a forte dynamic marking. The second system continues the vocal and piano parts, with a measure rest in the Soprano and Alto staves at the beginning of the first measure. The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and harmonic structure.

* Alfred Lord Tennyson was the most popular poet of the Victorian era. He was born in Somersby, Lincolnshire in England, the fourth of twelve children to George and Elizabeth Tennyson. Alfred attended Trinity College, Cambridge, where he won the Chancellor's Gold Medal in 1828 for his poem "Timbuctoo." In 1845 he received a government pension of £200 a year, which helped provide Tennyson with needed financial support. Despite the fact that he was legally blind and could not even see to eat without a monocle, he achieved great success as a poet. Tennyson was named Poet Laureate of England in 1850 and was later awarded his title "Lord" by Queen Victoria in 1884.

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Break, break, break, on thy cold gray stones, O sea! And I

Break, break, break, on thy cold gray stones, O sea! And I

7

cresc.

would that my tongue could ut - ter the thoughts that a - rise in me.

cresc.

cresc.